

Graffiti Detection Program

General Information

DETECTION ASSISTANCE

The City offers a reward not to exceed \$2,000 (and cellular telephone air time) for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any person committing graffiti offenses. In the event that multiple witnesses contribute to the arrest and conviction, the reward may be split in a manner deemed appropriate by the City Council. Please refer to Municipal Code Section 11-147 for reward provisions.

PURPOSE OF PROGRAM

To facilitate the rapid identification and removal of graffiti from public and private property, to reduce blight and deterioration within the community, to protect public health and safety, and to assist in the expeditious prosecution of offenders and subsequent restitution.

HOW TO FILE FOR AND COLLECT A REWARD

1. Claim forms for reward are provided by the City and can be downloaded by [clicking here](#).
2. Completed Claim forms are to be filed with the City's Police Department, and an Incident Report will be completed by appropriate Police personnel in conjunction with receiving the Claim.
3. Upon receipt of the Claim and completion of an Incident Report, the City's Police personnel will conduct an investigation, as appropriate, or forward to proper authorities. Individual(s) filing the Claim may be contacted during the investigation and may subsequently be required to testify in a court of law.
4. Upon completion of the investigation, the matter will be turned over to the Orange County District Attorney for prosecution, if appropriate.
5. If the offender(s) is convicted, (diversion of the perpetrator to a community service program, or a plea bargain to a lesser offense, shall also constitute a conviction), the City's Police Department shall verify the benefit of the Claim and recommend its allowance to the City Council. If the City deems that the claimant's information is relevant and directly responsible for the conviction, the City Council will then authorize payment of an appropriate reward amount.

ELIGIBILITY TO COLLECT REWARD

All members of the public are eligible to file for and collect this reward, with the exception of: City of Costa Mesa employees while on duty or in a City vehicle and all Police Officers at all times. (Pursuant to both Federal and State Law.)

FALSE CLAIMS AND POLICE REPORTS

In accordance with the State of California Penal Code Section 148.5, a false report of a criminal offense to the Costa Mesa Police Department is a crime.